

# REPUBLICAN SENATORS DEFEND HARDING'S SHAKE-UP AT BUREAU

## NEW SAYS TOLD BY WILKETH

(Continued from First Page.)

any of their private papers, except under surveillance.

Bureau chiefs, after being notified by letter of their dismissal, were not permitted to remove any papers from their desks or any articles from their individual lockers except under surveillance of the new director or Secret Service men.

"The method employed in the discharge of myself and my fellow workers in the Bureau was done in such a manner as would indicate that we were guilty of some crime and were criminals," Mr. Wilketh said.

Congressman James F. Byrne of South Carolina will today address the House, requesting that some explanation of the Administration's action in dismissing the Bureau employees be made.

The text of the Caraway resolution relating specifically to "The Times' inside story" follows:

"Whereas, it is in the public press charged that the people were dismissed to prevent those who sought their dismissal from exposing certain irregularities,

"Whereas, it is charged that a member of this Senate knew of said irregularities,

"Whereas, it is stated in said publication that, in fact, those facts were in fact be a compounding of a felony therefore be it

"Resolved, by the Senate of the United States, that the President is to the Senate appoint a committee of five members who shall ascertain and report:

"The specific facts and reasons upon which the order is based, and by what, if any, real investigation it was preceded; whether the persons removed, or any of them, have failed in the performance of their duty; whether there is ground for believing that the good of the service is likely to be promoted by their removal, or by the new appointments; and whether or not the facts indicate that the order may be regarded as a step in the direction of a return to the discredited 'spoils system' but disregarding the spirit, and as is also claimed, the letter of the Civil Service law."

The White House today addressed a letter to John J. Deviney, ousted superintendent of works at the Bureau, expressing regret at the absence of President Harding yesterday when the committee made its call. Deviney acted as spokesman for the ousted officers. The letter made no mention of charges or reasons for the dismissals.

**Text of Letter.**

The letter which was sent by George B. Christian, Jr., Secretary to the President, was as follows:

"I have shown to the President the statement left by you and your associates in the course of your call at the White House yesterday. He asks me to make reply and say that he would have been very glad to meet your delegation had he been present at the time of your call.

"I am sure that you will be glad to make a statement relative to the case. The President has had no wish to reflect upon the character of any Government employee, but he did hold that a sweeping change in the Bureau was essential for the good of the service. He regrets the insinuating publicity no less than those who have been discontinued from the public service."

The summary discharge of Director Wilketh and twenty-eight of the divisional chiefs of the bureau was a part and parcel of a general "efficiency shake-up," according to Secretary Mellon.

Officially, the Treasury Department is taking no cognizance of the vicious undercurrent of rumors and reports of huge "scandals" that is keeping Washington a-gog with excitement.

**Daughter Directs Inquiry.**

Secretary Mellon said no charges of a criminal nature had been filed against any of the discharged employees, or ousted officials. At the same time Attorney General Daugherty permitted it to become known that Department of Justice operatives have been assigned to the big bureau and are now engaged in "investigation."

It will take several weeks to complete the "investigation" and check of the bureau's affairs. Some idea of the magnitude of the task may be gained from the fact that more than \$2,500,000,000 in Federal Reserve notes alone are kept in reserve in the bureau, to say nothing of other kinds of Government paper—bank notes, bonds, postage stamps, revenue stamps, Treasury certificates, etc.

The ousted officers have no intention of permitting their dismissals to stand any of the circumstances that now surround them. They have friends in both houses of Congress, as evidenced by the resolutions demanding an investigation already introduced, and if this method does not bring some clarification of the situation, they asserted today they would carry their cases to the courts to test the civil service law.

Can the President abolish positions created by Congress?

Question is demanded by the National Federation of Federal Employees as a result of the wholesale shake-up in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

**Illegality Charged.**

The federation charges the President's action in abolishing executive positions in the bureau and appointing positions, why can he not do the same thing throughout all the executive departments?" the federation asks.

A petition signed by the employees of the stamp engraving division of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, urging the reappointment of

## SAMMY AND HIS PALS

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## Dye Stuffs Inquiry Continues To Be Capital's Darkest Secret

By WILLIAM HARD.  
Cosmopolitan News Service.

I hear it asked: "What is it that holds the Department of Justice back from the grand jury proceedings which it was understood to have planned in the matter of the Chemical Foundation and of Francis P. Garvan and A. Mitchell Palmer? Can it be anything on Capitol Hill?"

The case against the Chemical Foundation and Garvan and Palmer—based on acts committed when Palmer was an alien property custodian—was supposed to be completed. It was said to be ready for the grand jury. It had to do with dyestuffs.

On Capitol Hill, in the Senate Office building, in a large, impressive room, there is now a very long inquiry going forward. It is an inquiry into dyestuffs. It is conducted by one of the most impressive of Senators, namely, Shortridge of California.

Shortridge is a man of an unforgettable appearance. He has a very long, sloping forehead, a very long nose, a very long upper lip, a very long chin, and very long arms. He consists entirely of long lines, except that on his nose in front of his eyes he places two extremely large, round pieces of glass. He speaks in a very deep bass voice and brandishes a cigar. He inquires into dyestuffs hour after hour and day after day.

Miss Nellie C. Wilding as head of the division, was sent to Director Hill this morning.

The petition states that under her direction a counter's daily work has been increased by 4,500 and the machine operation output by 500.

"We feel sure the large saving will show her management 100 per cent efficient, and for the above reasons we earnestly hope you will reappoint her head of this division."

**Treasury Shake-up Forms Chief Topic at Cabinet Meeting**

By GEORGE R. HOLMES.  
International News Service.

The Treasury shake-up, and the situation arising out of it, formed one of the chief topics of Cabinet discussion today. Secretary Mellon conferred with President Harding for half an hour this morning in advance of the regular meeting at 11 o'clock.

More than a quarter of a billion dollars in uncollected and contested taxes will be garnered by the Government this year and devoted to relieving some of the embarrassment incident to the huge falling off in this year's returns, according to estimates made today by Treasury officials.

This it was stated, will be one of the chief beneficial results from the general shake-up of the business department of the Government, now in progress—a shake-up which has brought with it such a multitude of rumors and reports as to keep the Capital a-whisper with political nervousness since Saturday.

There are now on the books of the Treasury Department more than \$1,000,000,000 in back taxes, with prospects that this "enormous amount" will be increased as the business progresses of getting the books on a current basis. Many of them are war claims, arising out of war profits, which the antiquated machinery of the Treasury has not

been able to reach in the four years since the war stopped.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon estimates that the tax deficit this year will reach \$300,000,000. How to make it up has been perplexing Administration officials for a month. The efficiency experts of the Government were called in. They advised that this amount could be made up through adjustment of back taxes and the greater customs revenues, and this, according to Treasury officials, is at the root of the general Treasury shake-up.

**DOGS ARE THE HEROES OF TWO FIRES IN NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, April 4.—Two little dogs today are the heroes of fires in different parts of the city.

Early yesterday the barking of Teddy, a Pomeranian, awakened his master, Benjamin Holland, after a blaze had broken out in a tenement house on St. John's place, Brooklyn. Holland shouted for help and twenty persons were rescued from fire escapes.

Later in the day Mrs. Mark Isaac, eighty-three and dumb, set fire to her clothes while making coffee for her eighty-four-year-old husband in their little room on West street. Toby, a black and tan belonging to a neighbor, smelt the smoke, and barked furiously until help came, and Isaac, an invalid, was rescued. Mrs. Isaac died from her burns.

**DRIVER OF AUTO THAT KILLED ROOSEVELT, BAILED**

NEW YORK, April 4.—David Zalkan, bus driver, who was arrested on a manslaughter charge in connection with the death of Robert B. Roosevelt, Jr., was released in \$5,000 bail today, pending further examination Wednesday.

Roosevelt, a second cousin of the late Theodore Roosevelt, was found unconscious in Columbus avenue Friday night after being struck by an automobile. He died Saturday.

**Miners See Ray of Hope.**

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 4.—Strike of the United Mine Workers, according to all reports, continues unabated in the Great Central Competitive Field, which produces by far the greater part of the Nation's coal, and in the hard coal fields.

A considerable number of non-union miners were reported to have joined the strike.

## HOUSING EXPERT HITS BALL RENT ACT AS SELFISH

H. R. Brigham Tells City Club Forum Only Solution Is Home Ownership.

Henry R. Brigham, of Boston, member of the local housing committee, around whom much criticism has been centered, today renewed his attack on the Ball rent law in an address before the weekly forum of the City Club.

"The destruction of the right of contract by the Ball rent act and particularly as it is proposed to extend to business property is most dangerous and selfish legislation," declared Mr. Brigham.

"The merchant who favors this act, hoping to pay less rent than his big competitor, is just as bad as the profiteering landlord. The law violates the spirit of the Constitution of the United States."

Brigham, who is considered an expert on housing, declared that the Ball measure only results in postponing the solution of Washington's building problem.

In his address, Brigham dwelt at some length on the housing situation as it affects the entire country. He said that he would not discuss the local situation until after the housing committee had started to function.

"But I want to offer two suggestions right now, and I hope that before I leave Washington I will be able to offer more suggestions," said Brigham.

"The solution to the housing problem will come with more homes. I suggest, first, that every man who can possibly afford it buy his own home."

"And, second, I suggest that employers, including the Government, give their employees a living wage and aid them in buying their own homes."

## EDWARD LOWRY TOPS AMATEURS IN EARLY ROUND

Leaders of Yesterday Off to Late Starts—Weather Less Favorable.

By International News Service.

PINEHURST, N. C., April 4.—Many of the players who were leading the field at the end of the first round in the qualifying round of the North and South amateur championship made late starts today.

Edward Lowry, of the North Fork Golf Club, Dedham, Mass., was leading the field when about one half had completed their rounds with a card of 80-74, 154 for the 36 holes.

Mike Thomas, of Nashville, rated as one of the best left-handed golfers in America, and Joe Wells, of East Liverpool, Ohio, were tied for second place at 160.

Weather conditions were not as favorable for low scoring as yesterday. A high wind blew and the sand greens were dry and exceedingly fast.

The scores follow: Edward Lowry, North Fork, 80-74-154; Mike Thomas, Nashville, 85-75-160; Joe Wells, East Liverpool, 82-78-160; Frank Keating, Pinehurst, 80-84-164; Walter Dillon, Worcester, 82-83-165; Irving B. Robeson, Rochester, 84-81-165.

**NEW TEMPLE TO BE ERECTED BY D.C. HEBREWS**

Congregation Decides on \$350,000 Structure—Committee Will Select Site.

Erection of a new temple, costing approximately \$350,000, to house the Washington Hebrew congregation, has been decided upon by the congregation and will be recommended at the body's annual meeting in the vestry rooms of the Eighth Street Temple tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock.

In addition to the new temple, a temple center will be built, with recreation rooms, gymnasium and other features, immediately adjacent to the temple. The two projects have been under consideration for several months, owing to the inadequacy of the present temple to accommodate increases in the congregation and in the Sabbath school.

A committee will be appointed at the meeting to select a site for the proposed buildings and to report on construction costs.

Lee Baumgarten, president of the congregation, announced in the statement sent to all members of the congregation that the meeting would be the most important in the last twenty-five years. Four members of the board and three trustees of the congregation will be elected, and several other matters of major import will be considered.

**To Discuss Coal Strike.**

First-hand facts on the coal strike will be given members of the Washington Association of Credit Men when George H. Cushing, Washington director of the American Coal Association, addresses the association at its mid-week luncheon in the City Club tomorrow.

**Beck's Wife a Writer.**

ATLANTA, Ga., April 4.—Lieut. Col. Paul W. Beck, who was shot and killed at Oklahoma City today, was stationed at Fort McPherson, Ga., during the war, according to residents of Atlanta, and with his wife enjoyed a high social standing here.

Mrs. Beck had made some reputation as an authoress, according to friends, who said that at least one novel, dealing with aboriginal life, had been published by her.

**Fire Destroys 5,000 Trees.**

NYACK, N. Y., April 4.—More than 5,000 young spruce and fir trees were destroyed yesterday by fire which swept across several hundred acres of the Palisades park commission nursery back of Hook mountain, near Lockland lake.

## LASKER BACKS HARDING'S SHIP SUBSIDY PLANS

Says U. S. Operation Loses \$50,000,000 Yearly and Throttles Private Owners.

By International News Service.

In addition to rolling up an annual deficit of \$50,000,000, Government operation of the American merchant marine is defeating its own purpose by "driving from the seas" the private operators who should eventually become the owners of the Government's vessels.

A. D. Lasker, chairman of the United States Shipping Board, today told a joint Congressional committee in urging adoption of President Harding's ship subsidy plan.

"Fifty million dollars annually it is costing the Government to keep the Shipping Board going," Lasker declared, "and it is a deception to the American people to represent that the Shipping Board is losing but \$50,000,000 annually, when that \$50,000,000 is lost operation only and does not consider capital invested."

Lasker said that this big loss was incurred through the operation of 421 ships. He defended the loss, however, on the ground that American shippers were getting their goods transported throughout the world.

While admitting that foreign ships carried 71 per cent of American exports in 1921, Lasker said that the goal of the Shipping Board was for at least 50 per cent of American foreign trade to be carried in American ships, privately operated.

Despite the handicaps under which private ship operators must work, Lasker declared that an efficient merchant marine was this country's only salvation from loss of all of the world's markets to Europe. Failure to firmly establish the United States on the seas, he said, would place this country at "Europe's mercy."

In addition to the commercial advantages of an efficient merchant fleet, Lasker declared that "there can be no thought of naval equality with Great Britain until we possess a merchant marine in balance and tonnage equal to hers as a second line of defense to our navy and as a source of supply and fuel."

"We cannot fool ourselves," Lasker said. "We are only on a 5-3-1 naval basis with Great Britain and Japan to the extent that we possess on a 5-5-3 basis a merchant marine of the type and kind necessary to naval aid."

**ARMY AVIATOR SHOT TO DEATH IN OKLAHOMA**

(Continued from First Page.)

at Washington about a year ago, it is said.

Lieutenant Colonel Beck had frequently visited the Day home here, and was an intimate friend of the family. He had flown to this city yesterday in a plane from Fort Sill to attend the card party.

The commanding officer at Fort Sill was notified of the shooting, but as yet no action has been taken in regard to the case.

Judge Day is fifty years old, but his wife is several years younger. They have one daughter, a student at the University of Oklahoma.

**Well Known In Capital.**

Capt. Paul W. Beck was known as an aviator more than ten years ago, and was one of the four oldest aviators in the country. He lectured on aviation before leading clubs of California from February 1910, to January, 1911, and was secretary of an aviation meet in San Francisco about the same time.

He served in the Signal Corps from 1905 to 1912, when he rejoined his regiment, the Eighteenth Infantry. In 1912, he wrote a boy's book on airplanes while at Fort McPherson, after completing his duties as chief of the armory fleet.

He made more than fifty trips in his Curtiss plane at San Antonio, Tex., during the Mexican trouble of 1911. For two years he was stationed at College Park, Md.

**First to Drop Air Bomb.**

Beck was the first man in the world to drop a bomb from an airplane, performing this feat when a passenger in a Farman plane at Los Angeles.

He also was the designer of the first wireless set used on an airplane. His cross-country flights in the unstable planes of ten years ago created wide comment.

Besides being one of the oldest aviators in the army, Beck was a telegraph and wireless operator, military photographer and topographer, and a former newspaperman.

He was well known in Washington society circles.

**Beck's Wife a Writer.**

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## Works For Overthrow Of Bolsheviks In Russia.

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## HUSBAND HELD BY POLICE FOR SLAYING BRIDE

E. T. Mercer, Whose Wife Was Found Dead at Norfolk, Is Arrested.

By International News Service.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 4.—Edward T. Mercer, husband of Mrs. Ruth Mercer, whose disfigured body was found Sunday in the waters of Chesapeake bay, at Ocean View, a summer resort near Norfolk, Va., was arrested here early today and is being held at police headquarters for the Ocean View authorities. A warrant charging him with the murder of his wife has been sworn out, it is said.

**Cries When Arrested.**

Mercer was arrested at the Buddie Club, opposite City Hall, where police found him in bed. He said he had been in Baltimore "a couple of days." He tried yesterday to enlist here in the Coast Guard Service.

Lieut. John Carey, at police headquarters, read to Mercer a telegram from Ocean View asking for his detention. Mercer wept. The accused gave his age as twenty-one years and his address as Norfolk at 429 Bank street. He said he had not been in Ocean View for three or four years.

**Also Seeks Marine.**

NORFOLK, Va., April 4.—Police are seeking a marine in connection with the mysterious death of Mrs. Ruth Mercer, at Ocean View on Sunday.

Yesterday they questioned a marine who was identified by Mrs. Alice Wilson, sister-in-law of the dead woman, as Mrs. Mercer's escort Saturday night.

After being questioned for an hour as to his movements Saturday night, the marine was taken back to the Portsmouth barracks and search was instituted for a second man, named by the first as having accompanied the party to the beach. Police refused to divulge the information gleaned from the man.

The dead woman's body was still warm when it came ashore and her face bore marks which indicated she had been severely beaten before she fell or was thrown into the waters of Chesapeake Bay.

Mercer, the husband, who disappeared Friday, was a member of the crew of the Coast Guard cutter Manning and was paid off Friday afternoon. Mrs. Mercer left her home on Bank street Saturday with another man, believed to be the marine who is under surveillance at the marine barracks here. Police believe her husband saw her with the marine and that her death was the result of the encounter.

**BANDITS KILL POLICEMAN AND SEIZE \$20,000**

CHICAGO, April 4.—While scores of persons helplessly watched, five automobile bandits last night shot and killed a patrolman, probably fatally wounded a bank messenger and escaped with a satchel containing \$20,000 which the two were carrying.

The hold-up occurred in front of the Calumet National Bank in the heart of the South Chicago business district.

The two victims, Patrolman Earnest H. Cassidy and Philip Sommers, were making the week's collections of the Royal Building and Loan Association to the bank.

**PHILADELPHIA AD MAN TO ADDRESS CITY CLUB**

William Nelson Taft, editor of "Retail Public Ledger," Philadelphia, will be the guest and principal speaker tomorrow at the weekly luncheon of the Washington Advertising Club at the City Club.

The subject of Mr. Taft's address will be "Merchandising and Advertising," from a retailer's viewpoint. His talk will be of particular interest to buyers as well as advertisers and President Harry Hahn has requested that the club members avail themselves of the opportunity to hear Mr. Taft.

**She could eat anything—without indigestion or sleeplessness**

For a time she had been troubled with gas after her evening meal. The distress was most painful after eating potatoes or other starchy foods, of which she was very fond.